

**APPLICATION FOR  
UNITED STATES PATENT  
IN THE NAME OF**

**ALBERT A. STABILE, JR.**

for

**MOBILE TRUCK TENT**

Prepared by:

Pillsbury Winthrop LLP  
725 South Figueroa Street, Suite 2800  
Los Angeles, California 90017-5406  
Tel: (213) 488-7100  
Fax: (213) 629-1033

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 67945-000001

Express Mail No. EV 235 026 542 US

## MOBILE TRUCK TENT

This application claims the benefit of priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 of provisional patent application serial no. 60/464,202, filed April 22, 2003, the contents of which are hereby

5 incorporated by reference in their entirety as if fully set forth.

### **BACKGROUND**

#### **1. Technical Field**

Embodiments described herein are directed to a mobile truck tent. Specifically, the frame of the mobile truck tent is made of steel tubing, is freeway-safe, contains two built-in bench seats  
10 made of metal, and requires little or no assembly/disassembly/reassembly for its various uses. In addition, the cover for the mobile truck tent is durable and will not flutter when driven at high speeds.

#### **2. Related Art**

The use of truck tent covers of various types is well known in the art. For example, cover  
15 assemblies that attach to the tops of the sidewalls of pickup truck beds have been previously disclosed. Assemblies having base portions that rest on the bottom of pickup truck beds have also been taught. The assemblies may be of the collapsible rigid enclosure as well as of the soft enclosure variety. Such truck tent covers typically are limited in combination with a truck bed alone, provide little versatility, and lack strength in construction or are expensive, difficult to  
20 install on and remove from a pickup truck bed, and do not provide sufficient coverage from the elements. The mobile truck tent as taught herein substantially departs from the conventional concepts and designs known in the art, and in doing so, provides an apparatus for protecting cargo within a truck bed as well as for providing shelter for individuals while camping or performing numerous other activities. The mobile truck tent sustains normal freeway speeds;

provides adequate shelter from rain, wind, and other harsh weather conditions; requires no disassembly; and contains two twenty-inch wide bench seats.

### **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

A detailed description of embodiments of the invention will be made with reference to the accompanying drawings, wherein like numerals designate corresponding parts in the several figures.

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a pickup truck.

FIG. 2a is a front seat frame assembly of a mobile truck tent for installation on a pickup truck, according to an embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 2b is a center seat frame assembly of a mobile truck tent for installation on a pickup truck, according to an embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 2c is a rear seat frame assembly of a mobile truck tent for installation on a pickup truck, according to an embodiment of the present invention. assemble

FIG. 3 is a perspective view of a steel frame assembly of a mobile truck tent installed on a pickup truck, according to an embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 4 is a back view of a steel frame assembly of a mobile truck tent installed on a pickup truck, according to an embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 5 is a side view of a steel frame assembly of a mobile truck tent installed on a pickup truck, according to an embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 6 is a depiction of an assembled mobile truck tent with its attached cover installed on a pickup truck, according to an embodiment of the present invention.

### **DETAILED DESCRIPTION**

The following paragraphs and figures describe a new and improved mobile truck tent that

may be attached to bed sidewalls of a pickup truck **100** or anchored to the ground for camping or other activities and purposes. Because of the design of its support frame, the mobile truck tent has the advantage of remaining assembled on the back of the pickup truck **100** at all times—even while driving. The mobile truck tent has a plethora of uses and applications. It can easily be  
 5 used for hauling materials such as refuse and recyclables. Nurseries can employ the truck tent for hauling soil, seeds, plants, trees, and gardening tools. The mobile truck tent may be used by any delivery company for groceries, packages, etc. Furthermore, the mobile truck tent provides shade for individuals while camping.

As shown in Figure 1, a pickup truck **100** typically includes a cab **110** and a cargo box  
 10 **120**. The cargo box **120** includes a cargo box floor **130** having a left vertical sidewall **140**, a right vertical sidewall **150**, and a forward wall **160** extending perpendicularly between the sidewalls **140** and **150** to form a generally box shape. The sidewalls **140** and **150** are parallel to one another. Figure 1 further shows a cargo box tailgate **170** that is movable between a closed position, wherein the tailgate **170** is upright over the cargo box floor **130** and the end of the cargo  
 15 box **120** is closed, and an open position, wherein the tailgate **170** is lowered and the end of the cargo box **120** is open. Beneath the tailgate **170** is a bumper **180**.

Turning to Figure 2a in conjunction with Figure 3, a front seat frame assembly **200** of a mobile truck tent for installation to the cargo box **120** of the pickup truck **100** is shown. The front seat assembly **200** is made of round metal tubing **210**. Steel is the preferred metal, but  
 20 other metals such as aluminum, for example, may also be used. The metal tubing **210** has a one-inch dimension. The front seat frame assembly **200** has poles **220a**, **220b**, and **220c** that lock on truck tie downs in the cargo box **120**. The primary tie downs are preferably clamps **310a** and **310b** (not shown) that hook under the lips of the cargo box **120**. These secure tie downs allow

for driving the pickup truck **100** safely at highway speeds with the mobile truck tent affixed thereto.

Figure 2b similarly shows a center seat frame assembly **230** of a mobile truck tent for installation on the pickup truck **100**. The center seat assembly **230** is also made of round metal tubing **210**, having a one-inch dimension. The center seat frame assembly **230** has a pole **220d** that locks on truck tie downs in the cargo box **120**.

Figure 2c shows a rear seat frame assembly **240** of a mobile truck tent for installation on the pickup truck **100**. The rear seat assembly **240** is also made of round metal tubing **210**, having a one-inch dimension. The rear seat frame assembly **240** has poles **220e** and **220f** that lock on truck tie downs in the cargo box **120**. The primary tie downs are preferably turnbuckles **310c** and **310d** that hook under the lips of the cargo box **120**. Again, these secure tie downs allow for driving the pickup truck **100** safely at highway speeds with the mobile truck tent affixed thereto. The front seat frame assembly **200**, center seat frame assembly **230**, and rear seat frame assembly **240** fit together to form a complete seat frame assembly.

As shown in Figure 3, the mobile truck tent has bench seats **320a** and **320b** that sit on each side of the cargo box **120**. Bench seats **320a** and **320b** are made of one-inch metal tubing. Steel is the preferred metal, but other metals such as aluminum, by way of example, may also be used. The clamps that secure the bench seats **320a** and **320b** are preferably threaded one-half inch turnbuckles **310c** and **310d**. These turnbuckles **310c** and **310d** prevent any axis of rotation from occurring while driving at highway speeds. Moreover, various nuts, bolts, and washers in the frame of the bench seats **320a** and **320b** allow for enlargement of bench seats **320a** and **320b** to fit long bed pickup trucks. In addition, a rubber gasket glues underneath the frames of the bench seats **320a** and **320b** for paint protection for the pickup truck **100**. The bench seats **320a**

and **320b** are six feet long and twenty inches wide and have numerous uses. For example, bench seats **320a** and **320b** can serve as beds for average-sized children. Bench seats **320a** and **320b** may further be used as nightstands for eyeglasses, alarm clocks, and various accoutrements.

Camping gear and attire may be held on bench seats **320a** and **320b**. Indeed, bench seats **320a** and **320b** allow for many different storage applications. Velcro netting may also be added for storage space around bench seats **320a** and **320b**. For comfort, bench seats **320a** and **320b** have plastic seat covers that easily pop on top of the underlying metal tubing.

Figure 3 further shows a shell assembly **330** for the mobile truck tent. The shell **330** is made of one-inch metal pipes/tubing, thereby providing the truck tent with the sheer strength necessary to withstand wind pressures encountered while driving in normal highway conditions. The various pipes, preferably made of steel, of the shell **330** may be used for storage purposes by hanging articles, such as for example clothing, from them. It is important to note that the shell **330** assembles by way of sliding the various one-inch metal tubing pieces into one another with accommodating sleeves and buttons. Tie down clamps **310a** and **310b** and turnbuckles **310c** and **310d** allow for simple attachment and removal to the cargo box **120** of the pickup truck **100**.

Figure 4 shows the back view of the shell assembly **330** of the mobile truck tent from as perched on the pickup truck **100**. The bumper **180** of the pickup truck is clearly shown in this view. In addition, Figure 5 shows a side view of a steel frame shell assembly **330** of the mobile truck tent. As shown from this perspective, the shell assembly **330** has an aerodynamic nose, thereby allowing for little wind resistance, even when driving at highway speeds.

Figure 6 shows a heavy fabric cover member **600** for the shell **330** of the truck tent. The cover is durable and waterproof. The cover member **600** may be of the Sunbrella variety as manufactured by Glen Raven Mills of Van Nuys, California. Other materials may be used for

the cover member 600, such as the widely known and popular Gortex, for example. Preferably, the cover member 600 is treated on both the inside and outside for protection from the elements. the cover member 600 is lightweight, thereby allowing for optimal fuel efficiency. The cover member 600 further includes a door 610 and windows 620a and 620b. Door 610 and windows 5 620a and 620b may be unzipped and un-velcroed for providing light and securing air flow. The cover member 600 may also be unzipped and serve as an awning for shading on hot camping days.

While the above description refers to particular embodiments of the present invention, it will be understood to those of ordinary skill in the art that modifications may be made without 10 departing from the spirit thereof. The accompanying claims are intended to cover any such modifications as would fall within the true scope and spirit of the present invention.

The presently disclosed embodiments are therefore to be considered in all respects as illustrative and not restrictive; the scope of the invention being indicated by the appended claims, rather than the foregoing description. All changes that come within the meaning and range of 15 equivalency of the claims are therefore intended to be embraced therein.